

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
PARAGUAY BUREAU
ASUNCION, PARAGUAY

MPY-7003
6 March 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT : Monthly Report -- Paraguay Bureau --
February 1987

I. GENERAL

Of most immediate concern to Bureau and Embassy personnel this month were the continuing verbal attacks against Ambassador Taylor and the incident on the 9th in which a tear-gas cannister fired by a Paraguayan policeman broke up a gathering the Ambassador was attending. The wrangle between Paraguay and the United States has developed into a campaign directed solely against Ambassador Taylor, with the Paraguayan authorities taking great pains to stress that he, and not the U.S. Government or its policies, is the root of the problem between them.

At a weekly Country Team meeting, Ambassador Taylor expressed his concern to the Bureau Chief over the effect of this campaign on the Bureau's monitors, who have had to monitor and translate all the Paraguayan propaganda on the incident. He was reassured of the staff's sophistication and ability to keep the recent events in proportion. Bureau personnel have experienced no problems locally stemming from the tug of war between the two governments.

The Bureau has begun recruitment campaigns to fill the newly approved monitorial position and the vacancy caused by Chief Technician [redacted] resignation. Out of some 50 monitorial applicants, the Bureau has interviewed and tested 20. The Bureau received only 10 applications for the technical position, three of whom were deemed suitable to interview and test. Interviewing and testing are under way.

STAT

-2-

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. Economic issues were in the spotlight this month as Brazilian President Jose Sarney on the 20th declared a unilateral suspension of the interest payments on the Brazilian foreign debt. The Bureau remained open after normal COB on the 19th and 20th to cover items on the debt issue, including Sarney's speech, which was filed not only to regular consumers of immediate items on Brazil but also to officials of the Federal Reserve Board, as requested in an immediate message from U.S. Ambassador to Brazil Harry Shlaudeman.

2. The Bureau filed items reporting that Argentina had declared a 2-day bank holiday and that the finance secretary had traveled to Brasilia on the 23d to consult with economic officials there. These and other events fueled speculation that Argentina would follow Brazil's example and suspend its interest payments. Consumers expressed keen interest in an address to the nation on the 25th by Argentine Economy Minister Juan Sourrouille, who, although he did not announce a suspension of interest payments, did state that the government would freeze prices and salaries, reduce import duties on capital goods not available in the country, and extend credit for high-technology projects.

3. Sourrouille's 32-minute speech was filed at immediate precedence and the last take cleared the Bureau less than 3 hours after it ended. A communications problem, however, prevented one take of the speech from reaching consumers, including Headquarters, and the Bureau closed before it received the Wire's message requesting the missing take. To prevent the recurrence of this problem, the Bureau instituted a new SOP whereby when filing a multitake priority or above item at the end of the shift, the duty editor will message the Wire to ensure that it has all takes and that it has no problems with the content of the item. The Bureau will remain open until it receives the Wire's response.

4. Paraguayan police on the 9th fired a tear-gas cannister that broke up a party at a private home where Ambassador Taylor was attending a reception in his honor hosted by the "Women for Democracy." Two other cannisters were fired into a crowd that had

-3-

gathered in the vicinity. The government claims that the crowd was planning to disrupt public order. Government officials also claim that no tear-gas cannister landed inside the perimeter of the private home where the reception was given, but that the fumes from the cannisters fired into the crowd disrupted the gathering. The Bureau filed many reports on reactions by government officials and opposition groups, as well as a report on the incident carried by Radio Moscow. Ambassador Taylor has expressed his appreciation of the Bureau's thorough coverage of the incident and subsequent reaction.

5. The Bureau has dropped from its coverage the 2300-2400 GMT Formosa, Argentina, LT88 Television cast. The Bureau began covering this cast in May 1986 because of the unique reports it was carrying on the activities of the Paraguayan opposition. Since then, however, wordage filed from this source has dropped to nothing. The newscast carries only news local to Formosa and does not even cover Argentine national events.

B. Technical

With the technical staff down to two technicians and since both needed to take leave before their children returned to school, the technicians confined themselves to performing routine maintenance on the Extel machines and the Collins 651-S receivers. In March with the two technicians returning to work, they plan to refurbish the dipole antenna located within the Embassy compound.

C. Cruising

Because of poor reception of Radio Beijing, the cruising monitor made observations on all its frequencies in order to ensure that the Bureau is monitoring the best ones. In cruising out Uruguayan short-wave stations, he found that Radio Libertad-Sport on 6045 kHz carries Radio El Espectador's 1600-1630 GMT newscast in network, thus providing an alternate frequency for this cast when reception is poor. It was observed that Moscow International Service in Spanish to Latin America added a new program from 0200-0300 GMT. The Bureau will conduct a 1-week content survey of the program and wire-file the results to MOD when the austral summer vacation period ends and monitorial strength

1?

-4-

returns to normal levels. Cruising observations of Brasilsat SBTS A1 yielded no new information. The cruising monitor again filled in for the Bureau technicians when they took some long overdue annual leave.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE

A. Personnel

1. Chief Monitor [] who was due to retire on the 28th, went on sick leave on the 9th. He will remain on sick leave until 3 August, at which time he will retire after using up his sick leave. [] underwent 8 hours of surgery on the 10th and is recovering in Asuncion's Migone Hospital.

STAT

STAT

2. At an office party on the 5th, with champagne glass in hand, the Bureau Chief announced the appointment of long-time Monitor Supervisor [] to replace retiring Chief Monitor []. [] assumed his new duties almost immediately due to hospitalization.

STAT

STAT

STAT

STAT

3. Chief Technician [] resigned effective 13 February.

STAT

IV. VISITS

1. Harvey Buffalo, the head of the State Department IG team that visited the Embassy this month, met with the Bureau Chief on the 5th.

2. The [] Chief of Area Operations visited the Bureau, his first, for a briefing and tour on the 4th.

STAT

STAT

[]
Chief, FBIS Paraguay Bureau

See Attachment A

CC: Chief, Panama Bureau
Chief, Key West Bureau

ATTACHMENT A: COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

In the dog days of summer when there wasn't too much to do in Asuncion (and there usually isn't), [] the husband of Junior Editor [] volunteered to lead Embassy employees and their families to a Guarani Indian village. The some 50 adventurers who signed up for the expedition trekked about 10 miles to the village in a long line of diplomatic cars, the likes of which had never been seen before in this part of the campo. We were welcomed by the village chiefs and saw such entertaining sights as the chiefs dressed in their ceremonial garb, Indian handicrafts, women weaving, and -- the children's treat -- a small snake. Never one to miss an opportunity to look for recruits, [] made a point of asking around to see if anyone was interested in a monitorial position. The chiefs, however, also were eager to make their point, and as they put arrow to bow, [] was seen running for his car.

STAT
SIAI

STAT

STAT



Paraguay Bureau Production Report for February 1987

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	209190
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	80000
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	705

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	10570.00 min.	50220.00 min.	174.23 issues
III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES: (publishable words per month)			

ARGENTINA

Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in			
Spanish	4320		
Buenos Aires Domestic Service in			
Spanish	1320		
Buenos Aires DYN in			
Spanish		6030	
Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in			
Spanish		15090	
Buenos Aires TELAM in			
Spanish		4820	
Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in			
English			
Buenos Aires CLARIN in			15270
Spanish			
Buenos Aires GENTE in			2620
Spanish			
Buenos Aires LA NACION in			0
Spanish			
Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in			5440
Spanish			
Buenos Aires LA RAZON in			0
Spanish			0

BOLIVIA

La Paz La Red Panamericana in			
Spanish	5560		
La Paz Radio Illimani in			
Spanish	0		
La Paz El Diario in			
Spanish			
La Paz PRESENCIA in			870
Spanish			360

- 2 -

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
BRAZIL			
Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese	4260		
Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese	7870		
Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese	0		
Rio de Janeiro Radio Globo in Portuguese	0		
Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese	3870		
Rio de Janeiro Rede Manchete Television in Portuguese	580		
Sao Paulo Bandeirantes Television in Portuguese	0		
Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese	1320		
Brasilia EBN in Portuguese		10170	
Rio de Janeiro AJB in Portuguese		500	
Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese			1450
Rio de Janeiro MANCHETE in Portuguese			0
Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese			4040
Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese			4270
Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese			5710
Sao Paulo VEJA in Portuguese			150
CHILE			
Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish	6480		
Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish	3670		
Santiago Radio Portales in Spanish	0		
Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish	420		
Santiago QUE PASA in Spanish			0

- 3 -

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Santiago ALTERNATIVA in Spanish			0
Santiago COSAS in Spanish			0
Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish			1380
Santiago HOY in Spanish			50
Santiago LA SEGUNDA in Spanish			1290
Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish			400
Santiago MENSAJE in Spanish			0
Santiago QUE PASA in Spanish			0
CHINA			
Beijing in Spanish to Latin America	0		
FRANCE			
Paris AFP in Spanish		28440	
PARAGUAY			
Asuncion Cerro Cora Sistema Nacional de Television in Spanish	750		
Asuncion Domestic Service in Spanish	430		
Asuncion Radio Charitas in Spanish	1150		
Asuncion Radio Primero de Marzo in Spanish	0		
Asuncion Red Nacional de Television in Spanish	3140		
Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish			2190
Asuncion EL PUEBLO in Spanish			0
Asuncion HOY in Spanish			2660
Asuncion LA DEMOCRACIA in Spanish			0
Asuncion LA TARDE in Spanish			340

- 4 -

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
--	-----------------	-------------------	-------------------

Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish			
Asuncion SENDERO in Spanish			3590
Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish			0
			1340
PERU			
Lima Cadena America Television in Spanish			
Lima Canal 9 Television in Spanish	0		
Lima Domestic Service in Spanish	1130		
Lima Latinoamericana Television in Spanish	0		
Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish	0		
Lima Radio Star in Spanish	2370		
Lima Radio del Pacifico in Spanish	0		
Lima Radioprogramas del Peru in Spanish	500		
Lima Television Peruana in Spanish	670		
Lima CARETAS in Spanish	6660		
Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish			0
Lima EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish			150
Lima EXPRESO Spanish			0
Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish			0
			0
SPAIN			
Madrid EFE in Spanish			
		24750	
URUGUAY			
Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish			
Montevideo Radio El Espectador in Spanish	2340		
	1370		

- 5 -

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
Montevideo LA HORA in Spanish			
Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish			0
Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish			1900
Montevideo LA DEMOCRACIA in Spanish			1100
			0
USSR			
Moscow Radio Magallanes in Spanish	0		
Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Spanish to Latin America	510		
Moscow in Portuguese to Brazil	0		
Moscow in Spanish to Latin America	0		
Moscow in Spanish to Chile	2140		
Moscow in Spanish to Cuba	0		

WORDAGE FILED FROM ROSET SOURCES

Brasilia EBN in Portuguese	10,170
Rio de Janeiro AJB in Portuguese	500
Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese	7870
Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese	4260
Rio de Janeiro Radio Globo in Portuguese	0
Sao Paulo Bandeirantes Television in Portuguese	0
Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese	3870
Rio de Janeiro Rede Manchete Television in Portuguese	580
TOTAL 27,250	